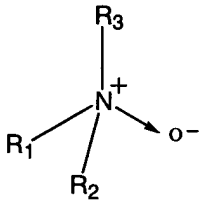
In The Claims

Prior to examination and calculation of fees, please cancel claims 8 through 11; claims 1-7 and 12- 22 remain.

1. In an aqueous based fracturing fluid, the improvement consisting of blending therein a small but sufficient amount of an amine oxide corresponding to the formula:



wherein R_1 is an aliphatic group of from 6 to about 20 carbon atoms, and wherein R_2 and R_3 are each independently alkyl of from 1 to about 4 carbon atoms, to facilitate the removal of fracturing fluid filtrate from the formation.

2. The fracturing fluid defined by claim 1 wherein R_1 is an alkyl or alkenyl group.

3. The fracturing fluid defined by claim 1 wherein R_1 is an alkyl group of 8 to 12 carbon atoms.

4. The fracturing fluid defined by claim 3 wherein R_1 is a linear alkyl group.

5. The fracturing fluid defined by claim 1 wherein R_2 and R_3 are each methyl or ethyl.

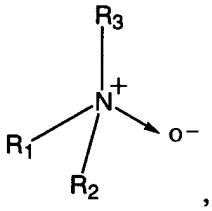
6. The fracturing fluid defined by claim 5 wherein R_2 and R_3 are each methyl.

7. The fracturing fluid defined by claim 3 wherein R_2 and R_3 are each methyl.

8-11. Cancel

12. An improved aqueous fracture fluid, said fracture fluid comprising: an aqueous carrier fluid containing a viscosifying amount of a solvatable polysaccharide and a small

but sufficient amount of an amine oxide to promote rapid cleanup of the filtrate and increase permeability of the formation to hydrocarbon fluids, said amine oxide corresponding to the formula:



,

wherein R_1 is an aliphatic group of from 6 to about 20 carbon atoms, and wherein R_2 and R_3 are each independently alkyl of from 1 to about 4 carbon atoms.

13. The fracture fluid defined by claim 12 wherein said solvatable polysaccharide is a galactomannan gum, a glycomannan gum or a cellulose derivative.

14. The fracture fluid defined by claim 12 wherein said solvatable polysaccharide is guar or a guar derivative.

15. The fracture fluid defined by claim 14 wherein said solvatable polysaccharide is guar, hydroxypropylguar, carboxymethyl guar, or carboxymethylhydroxypropyl guar.

16. The fracture fluid defined by claim 12 wherein said solvatable polysaccharide is crosslinked.

17. The fracture fluid defined by claim 16 wherein said solvatable polysaccharide is crosslinked with a borate or zirconium or titanium crosslinking agent.

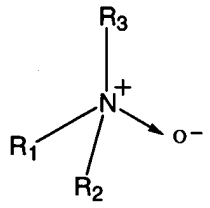
18. The fracture fluid defined by claim 17 wherein said solvatable polysaccharide is guar, hydroxypropylguar, carboxymethyl guar, or carboxymethylhydroxypropyl guar and the crosslinker is a zirconium or titanium crosslinking agent.

19. The fracture fluid defined by claim 17 wherein said solvatable polysaccharide is guar or carboxymethylhydroxypropyl guar and the crosslinker is a zirconium crosslinking agent.

20. The fracture fluid defined by claim 17 wherein said solvatable polysaccharide is guar or carboxymethylhydroxypropyl guar and the crosslinker is a titanate crosslinking agent.

21. The fracture fluid defined by claim 17 wherein said solvatable polysaccharide is guar and the crosslinker is a borate crosslinking agent.

22. In an aqueous based fracturing fluid, the improvement consisting of blending therein a small but sufficient amount of an amine oxide corresponding to the formula



wherein R_1 is an aliphatic group of from 6 to about 20 carbon atoms, and wherein R_2 and R_3 are each independently alkyl of from 1 to about 4 carbon atoms, to get a contact angle greater than 60 degrees.

Respectfully submitted,

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